

Welcome to **EDWARDS** **AIR FORCE BASE** & *The* **Air Force Flight**

Welcome to Edwards Air Force Base and the Air Force Flight Test Center! Whether you are here for a short visit or being assigned for a tour of duty, I sincerely hope that your stay is enjoyable.

Edwards is where tomorrow's Air Force is tested, and all of us who live and work here are extremely proud of this installation, its rich history and the role it has had in the advancement of military air power and state-of-the-art aviation in general.

From the development of America's first jet aircraft, the Bell XP-59A Airacomet, to our nation's newest air dominance fighter, the F/A-22 Raptor, and soon the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, Edwards has been home to virtually every aircraft to enter the Air Force inventory since World War II.

Edwards was where the sound barrier was first broken by Capt. Chuck Yeager in the Bell X-1

on Oct. 14, 1947, and where other X-planes pushed that record to two, three, four, five and six times the speed of sound and beyond. It was here that the X-15 probed the threshold of space and where the Space Shuttle first took wing and then landed on its initial return from earth orbit. Edwards is also home to the Air Force Research Laboratory's Propulsion Directorate, Detachment 7, the U.S. Marine Corps MAG 46 Detachment Bravo, NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center and considerable test activity conducted by America's commercial aerospace industry.

Our unique combination of geography and climate makes Edwards a true national asset.



Test Center

But the real strength of Edwards is the men and women who work here—their energy, commitment and professionalism. The motto of the Air Force Flight Test Center is “Ad Inexplorata,” which translates from the Latin into “Toward the Unexplored.” While you’re at Edwards, I hope you’ll get to know them and come to understand just exactly what that motto means to all who serve here. Again, a hearty welcome and best wishes from all of us for a most enjoyable stay.



Doug Pearson

WILBERT D. PEARSON, JR.
Major General, USAF
Commander